

WALL STREET IS BLAMED FOR BIG STRIKE

What's behind that Harvester strike? Why now in four days have 2,500 men and women slowly by hundreds and hundreds grown to an army of strikers numbering over 7,000? And why does this rich and powerful monopoly, with J. P. Morgan & Co. of New York as fiscal agents, and before the war handing down undivided profits ranging from \$7,000,000 to \$10,000,000 a year—why do these big shops have a walkout of 7,000 men and women, hardly a wheel turning in acres and acres of shops. Here's part of the answer:

Immigration stopped. Used to be millions of workers coming over here from the countries now at war. Now hardly any coming over. Hard to get scabs and strikebreakers. With immigration like it used to be Harvester trust probably would have put strikebreakers on the job already, as old Cyrus H. McCormick did in 1886 when men were killed at the McCormick plant.

Rotten high finance. The Morgan crowd loaded capitalization of the corporations to the limit. When the war came the Czar in Russia and the Kaiser in Germany grabbed the Harvester plants and they are now making rifles and saddles instead of reapers and binders. Trade shot to pieces. Profits squeezed down close to bankruptcy point. On a physical valuation basis the corporation could pay Henry Ford \$5 a day wage to its workers. Cyrus and Harold McCormick, George Perkins, Edgar A. Bancroft and other Harvester directors are "Progressives" and Roosevelt Republicans. Perkins was Roosevelt main backer in 1912. Bancroft started original Roosevelt-for-President clubs in 1898. Now they have to stand by and either pay higher wages, cut down profits, or fool the workers. Will they fool 'em?

Movies, show windows, advertising. All these things are making the for-

eigners who comes to this country want more and more of the good things of life. They see clothes, jewels, furniture in the Marshall Field & Co. windows. They see pictures in papers and on billboards of good things to eat and wear. And sometimes the whole load of what they want gets too heavy. Then an army of workers get restless and feckless, stop work and walk out.

At the University club Monday a man who knows many inside workings of the Harvester trust, said this:

"If old Cyrus McCormick and old man Deering had been as wise as Henry Ford they would have kept the bankers and wildcats of Wall street off their properties. They would have doubled the wages of their men and set an example for employes. From what I know about the son, Cyrus H. McCormick, I think he would like to follow the Ford tactics. But he's all tied up. Wall street has him in a hole. Either he's got to find some way of making higher profits so as to pay higher wages to the strikers or else he's got to trick his working people into taking some small wage raise that won't stop another strike from coming later."

With the walkout of several hundred more employes in the fight for a living wage, the McCormick Harvester plant at 26th and Blue Island was forced to shut down Tuesday.

The men who went out were mostly from the woodworking dept and raised the total number of strikers up to approximately 6,000. The company seems to be having trouble getting strikebreakers and it is rumored that some may be shipped in from other cities.

Leo J. Wienecke, chairman of the state board of arbitration, visited the plant here and said an effort would be made to bring the two sides together. He will talk to the company agents and strike leaders this afternoon.

All sides of the big plant were thronged by the strikers and their